

Jordan urges U.N. action

UNITED NATIONS (Petra) — The situation in the occupied West Bank and Gaza is deteriorating every day, particularly after Israel escalated its violent tactics to put down the 14-month-old Palestinian uprising and in light of the Zionist state's increasing violations of the human rights of the Palestinian people, Jordan Friday told the Security Council. Addressing a special session of the Security Council on Israeli practices (see story below), Jordan's permanent delegate Abdullah Saleh called for an immediate and effective resolution to counter the dangerous situation in the occupied territories. The inhuman measures adopted by the Israelis have become more intense and aggressive, but the more Israel persists in its stubbornness the stronger the uprising, Saleh told the council. The uprising, he said, has put things in their right perspective, highlighting the Palestinian identity in an unequivocal form. He said the Palestinian people were expecting from the Security Council an immediate and sincere effort to put an end to the Israeli crimes against them and help them achieve justice, security and liberty in their homeland.

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation
جordan Times يومي سياسي تحرير بلجيكي عن المؤسسة الصحافية الأردنية الرأي

Qadhafi proposes extending union

TUNIS (R) — Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi has proposed bringing Chad, Mali, Niger and Sudan into the planned union of the five Arab countries of the Maghreb. Qadhafi sent the proposal to the governments of Chad, Niger and Sudan Friday through their ambassadors in Libya, a Libyan official told Reuters by telephone. President Moussa Traore of Mali had already agreed to the idea during a visit to Libya, the official of the Libyan state news agency JANA said. Qadhafi will put forward the proposal when he meets the heads of state of Algeria, Mauritania, Morocco and Tunisia in the Moroccan city of Marrakesh next week, he added. Libya and the four other countries are looking at plans to set up a Maghreb union and the Marrakesh summit will study a draft treaty which Tunisia is preparing. The other Maghreb countries are likely to resist expanding the union at this early stage on the grounds that it will be complicated enough to integrate their own five economies. A JANA report said Qadhafi told the ambassadors that unity should be based on mutual benefit rather than racial similarity and should not take colour or religion into account.

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Rifai, Zou'bi visit Al Wahdah Dam site

AMMAN (J.T.) — Prime Minister Zaid Rifai and his Syrian counterpart Mahmoud Zou'bi Friday visited the site of the Al Wahdah Dam on the Yarmouk River and were briefed on progress of work on the project.

The briefing was presented by Water and Irrigation Minister Ahmad Dakhqan and Jordan Valley Authority (JVA) Mohammad Bani Hanif, who also outlined the nature of the terrain in the Jordan Valley and its agricultural importance at a meeting held later at the JVA offices, the Jordan News Agency, Petra, said.

The two prime ministers, who were accompanied by several ministers from both sides, also heard a briefing on the integrated development plans carried out in the valley to expand the area of arable and to provide water for irrigation as well as programmes to further develop water resources and expand infrastructure, at an estimated cost of over JD 300 million.

Rifai emphasised the government's keenness in providing water to farmers at minimal costs and offer other infrastructure services. He also referred to the cropping pattern policy in force in the Jordan Valley for the past three years and incentives offered to farmers following this policy.

Earlier, the two prime ministers paid a visit to the 12th Royal Mechanised Division where they were received by the unit's commander.

Zou'bi arrived in Jordan Thursday to attend meetings of the Joint Jordanian-Syrian Higher Committee. During Thursday's meeting, which was co-chaired by Rifai and Zou'bi, the committee decided to increase trade between the two countries.

The statement noted that the two sides agreed to pay up their shares in full in the joint companies.

Syria will import Jordanian pharmaceutical products and the national airlines of the two countries will launch cooperation in the maintenance of aircraft and in providing spare parts.

The committee reviewed achievements in cooperation in power generation and agreed to expand national power grid linkages and to exchange expertise and experience in power generation.

(Continued on page 2)



Prime Minister Zaid Rifai and his Syrian counterpart Mahmoud Zou'bi Friday visit the site of the Al Wahdah Dam (Petra photo)

King helps handicapped man fulfil childhood dream

LONDON (R) — A man with no arms or legs fulfilled a childhood dream Thursday when he took to the skies on his first solo flight after His Majesty King Hussein paid for his flying lessons.

Stephen Townsend, 29, was one of thousands of babies born with abnormalities traced to the now-banned drug thalidomide. He walks on artificial limbs and is believed to be the first thalidomide victim ever to fly solo.

Townsend took off from Oxford airport in a single-engined Piper Cadet aircraft which was specially adjusted for his needs.

His instructor was on board on what is known in aviation jargon as a "ghosted solo," but took no active part in flying the four-seater aircraft, an airport spokesman said.

King Hussein sponsored the cost of a six-week training course at Oxford airport.

U.N. revives Gulf peace drive with Aziz-Velayati talks

UNITED NATIONS (Agencies)

— The foreign ministers of Iran and Iraq were to meet face-to-face Friday in peace talks mediated by U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar, officials said.

It would be the first time the two talked directly.

"The only thing I want is to agree on what to do next, and to obtain from the two parties (assurances) that they will resume the direct talks," Perez de Cuellar told reporters as he left his nearby home Friday morning.

He said he hoped to persuade the foreign ministers to resume more extended direct talks "perhaps in the end of March, early April."

"We are decided that this afternoon around 3:30 (2030 GMT) to have the trilateral meeting," Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati said after meeting with Perez de Cuellar. "Maybe in that

meeting we will decide about the future talks."

Iraqi Foreign Minister Tareq Aziz said Thursday he was ready for an effort to break the deadlock in negotiations that began in August.

The face-to-face talks would be the first between the Iranian and Iraqi envoys. In previous encounters between the foreign ministers, in Geneva and New York, they and their aides went to separate rooms after the initial appearance at one conference table for photographers.

"Unfortunately, those meetings, which were called "direct talks," were fruitless to a great extent," Aziz told reporters.

Aziz said Thursday he was ready for talks with Velayati in an effort to break the deadlock in the peace talks.

Responding to news that Iran said it would release 260 sick and injured Iraqi prisoners of war

(POWs) in a few days, Aziz told reporters that Iran should release more than that and accused Tehran of "bargaining in human flesh."

A total of 100,000 prisoners are believed held by the two sides.

Both parties have expressed optimism and a willingness to talk, but have given no sign they are ready to budge from their positions.

Iran believes the ceasefire that took effect Aug. 20 is complete, and that Baghdad and Tehran should move on to the next points in Security Council Resolution 598, the 1987 U.N. peace plan that calls for withdrawal of armies to the border, exchange of war prisoners, holding peace talks and establishing a special panel to assess blame for starting the conflict.

Iran says Iraq still occupies about 1,000 kilometres of Iranian territory.

Papoulias arrives on EEC mission

GREEK FOREIGN MINISTER Karolos Papoulias speaks to Petra reporter upon his arrival Friday. At extreme right is Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Marwan Al Qasem (Petra photo)



AMMAN (J.T.) — Greek Foreign Minister Karolos Papoulias arrived here Friday on an official visit for talks on prospects for peace in the Middle East in the wake of the latest developments in the Palestinian problem.

In an arrival statement to the Jordan News Agency, Petra, Papoulias paid tribute to the unique role that Jordan plays in the search for peace in the region and the efforts exerted by His Majesty King Hussein on the Arab and international levels to advance the peace process and convene an international conference on the Middle East.

Papoulias, one of the European Economic Community (EEC) "troika" entrusted with the situation in the region in the wake of the latest developments and crystallise a

European role in advancing the peace process. He reaffirmed the EEC stand that Middle East peace should be achieved through an international conference attended by all parties. The EEC role in the next phase, he said, will be a collective one.

Papoulias was received upon arrival by Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Marwan Al Qasem, the Greek and Spanish ambassador and the EEC delegation in Amman.

Army destroys Burkin home, wounds 4

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies)

— Israeli troops Friday demolished the home of a detained Palestinian and shot wounded at least four Palestinians in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Palestinian sources said the house, in the West Bank village of Burkin, near Jenin, belonged to the family of 23-year-old Abdul Salam Mohammad Razi Jarar, who was arrested recently for resistance activities.

Since the start of the Palestinian uprising against Israel 14 months ago, the occupation army has demolished 165 houses in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

A local hospital reported a fourth casualty, a 12-year-old wounded when troops opened fire in a clash at Al Amari refugee camp.

The army statement said it had uncovered groups in six West Bank towns or villages whose members were suspected of petrol-bombing Israeli vehicles and attacking Palestinians alleged to have collaborated with Israeli

occupation authorities.

A Jewish settler in the West Bank died Wednesday in what police suspect was a petrol bomb attack by Palestinian nationalists.

In Ramallah, witnesses reported clashes between troops and protesters when shops and businesses closed down to mourn a local man killed by guards Wednesday during a protest at an Israeli jail.

They said soldiers fired at protesters who lit petrol which blurred in a wall of flame across the town's main street.

At least 387 Palestinians have been killed in the uprising.

In Arab Jerusalem, a petrol bomb was thrown at Israeli vehicles near the Old City walls and a bus was stoned on the Mount of Olives. No one was injured.

In the city's Shuafat refugee camp, residents raised the Palestinian flag and leaflets

were distributed calling for protests to mark the founding of the banned Palestinian Communist Party Feb. 10, 1982, reports said.

Soviet criticism

Israel responded sharply Friday to Soviet accusations that it was violating the human rights of Palestinians in the occupied territories, contending that Moscow's remarks were unjust and one-sided.

The Soviet Union Thursday accused Israel of "crudely violating human rights and trampling underfoot generally recognised international legal norms" in the West Bank and Gaza.

The Israeli authorities are stiffening reprisals against the innocent Palestinian population and extensively using firearms and ammunition, which leads to suffering, in-

PLO expects U.N. resolution criticising Israeli violations

UNITED NATIONS (Agencies)

— The Security Council met Friday to debate Israeli measures against Palestinian protesters following the release of a U.S. human rights report critical of the Zionist state's actions.

The Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) has tried since mid-January to draft a resolution condemning the Israeli army's use of rubber and plastic bullets and tear-gas, but has been unable to formulate language acceptable to the United States.

As one of five permanent Security Council members, the United States has veto power over any resolution.

About a week ago, the PLO withdrew its resolution after U.S.

Ambassador Vernon Walters said he would veto any language that failed to also call on the Palestinians to restrain their protests.

Riyad Mansour, the PLO's deputy permanent U.N. observer, said a new resolution was being drafted that "condemns the Israeli policies and practices."

"We expect a resolution to be adopted that will allow the Security Council to really assume its responsibility to stop the Israelis from the continuation of this onslaught against our people," Mansour said.

"There will be reference to human rights violations," he said, "especially as it is coming from the United States, the closest friend to Israel."

(Continued on page 2)

S. African attack tests peace pact

LUSAKA (R) — Reports by

Angola, swiftly denied by South Africa, that South African troops attacked its forces in southern

Angola this week will test the strength of a seven-week-old peace agreement for southern Africa.

It was not immediately clear if the charges made by Angola Thursday would threaten the accords, which provide for Namibian independence this year and a Cuban troop withdrawal from Angola by mid-1991.

This grouping is open to all Arab states wishing to join in and abide by the Arab League Charter because it is an advanced step towards realising national aspirations for unity, starting with economic integration," Saleh told a meeting of a Yemeni-Libyan higher committee Thursday.

The president, in remarks carried by Sanaa Radio, said the group "is not an axis or a political alliance; it is totally distant from the tendentious and anti-Arab propaganda launched by the world press."

Saleh said North Yemen was among the foremost countries to support Libya

due to meet regularly.

"Presumably, this incident would be a subject for the joint commission," one diplomat said.

The commission consisting of South African, Angolan and Cuban officials, to which U.S. and Soviet observers are invited, met for the first time in New York in January and was due to reconvene in Luanda in the last week of February.

Angolan Defence Minister Pedro Maria Tonha said Thursday that the South African invaders shelled Angolan forces south of the town of Caiundo to save fleeing guerrillas of the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA) rebel movement.

A South African military spokesman quickly denied the accusation and said the South African army was respecting existing agreements "to the letter."

The diplomats said they believed all sides including Angola

would be reluctant to hold up implementation of the peace accord, which foresees an April 1 start for a U.N.-sponsored Namibian independence plan, because of the incident.

The Angolan statement did not mention casualties or say what action Angola intended to take.

U.S.: No sanctions

In Geneva, the United States said Friday it is firmly committed to ending apartheid in South Africa but remains opposed to sweeping sanctions to achieve that goal.

U.S. delegate William H. Marsh told the U.N. Human Rights Commission that U.S. laws "imposed some of the world's most severe restrictions on trade with South Africa" but that there was "no clear evidence that these discriminatory measures are having a significant impact."

Walesa calls for 6-week moratorium on strikes

WARSAW (R) — Solidarity leader Lech Walesa called Friday for a six-week strike moratorium in Poland to give government-opposition talks on the country's future a chance of success.

"I appeal to all responsible people in the country to give the round table talks a six-week chance," Walesa told students in the southern city of Krakow.

"In Poland everyone has it rough, everyone has a just cause to strike, but not at this moment. Let's give the round table a chance."

The official news agency PAP simultaneously reported the start of a bus drivers' strike in the central city of Piotrkow Trybunalski. It was backed by the official OPZZ unions which have opposed proposals to legalise Solidarity at the Warsaw talks.

"Someone is trying to destroy the reforms," Walesa said in a reference to political, social and economic changes under discussion at the talks.

Walesa was in Krakow on a brief tour of southern Poland to test popular reaction to Solidarity's proposed deal with the government.

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Bush begins visit to Canada

OTTAWA (AP) — President George Bush arrived in Canada Friday for talks with Prime Minister Brian Mulroney. White House Press Secretary Marlin Fitzwater, speaking with reporters on Air Force One en route from Washington, said no agreements were expected to emerge from Bush's first foreign trip as president.

Ron Brown heads Democrat panel

WASHINGTON (R) — Lawyer and lobbyist Ron Brown won election by acclamation Friday as chairman of the Democratic National Committee, becoming the first black to lead a major national party in the United States. He told Reuters in an interview his goal was to unify the party and return the White House to Democrats who have lost five of the last six presidential elections. His election for a four-year term came as the 403 members of the Democratic National Committee wound up a three-day meeting here. The committee is the national fund-raising and organisational arm for Democrats throughout the United States.

10 injured in Johannesburg blast

JOHANNESBURG (AP) — A bomb exploded Friday outside an army medical building in a Johannesburg business district, injuring 10 people, authorities said. The building's entryway was damaged, and windows of nearby cars and office buildings were shattered. Ten passersby, eight whites and two blacks, were slightly injured by flying glass and discharged after treatment at Johannesburg hospital, hospital officials said. Colonel Franz Malherbe, a police spokesman, said a Soviet-made limpet mine exploded on a window ledge of the army's regional medical headquarters in the Braamfontein district of Johannesburg.

National News

JORDAN TIMES, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 1989 3

NATIONAL NEWS IN BRIEF

KING SENDS CONDOLENCES: His Majesty King Hussein has delegated Assistant Chief of Protocol for Tribal Affairs Sheikh Burnis Al Zaben to convey his condolences to Al Baq'a' family on the death of the late Hadba Yusuf Al Kawalet Al Baq'a' (Petra)

AJLOUNI RECEIVES TURKISH ENVOY: Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs Zubair Ajlouni Thursday discussed with the Turkish Ambassador in Amman bilateral relations. (Petra)

AL JABR RETURNS: Agriculture Minister Yousef Hamdan Al Jabr Friday returned home from Cairo, where he has been admitted to the hospital as a result of an ailment which he suffered from during the meetings of the Joint Jordanian-Egyptian Higher Committee. Al Jabr was admitted upon arrival to Queen Alia Centre for Heart Surgery for further treatment. (Petra)

NON-COMMUNICABLE DISEASES: Health Minister Zuhair Malhas said that the Ministry of Health established a new section for non-communicable diseases. He added that this section will conduct studies and researches to combat smoking, road accidents, heart diseases, and diabetes. (Petra)

INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN LAW: The National Committee for the Red Crescent, in cooperation with the International Committee of the Red Cross, is to organize a three-day workshop on the promotion of the international humanitarian law on Feb. 11. The workshop aims at orienting participants on the objectives of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent movement and to enrich their knowledge about the international humanitarian law, in addition to forming a national committee to be entrusted with promoting the law at the local level. (Petra)

NEW CENTRES IN MA'AN, AQABA: The General Union of Voluntary Societies (GUVS) allocated JD 40,000 for setting up a centre for the disabled in Ma'an, and another centre in Aqaba. GUVS also decided to contribute to setting up income-generating projects for housewives in the villages of Krein and Mansoura. (Petra)

ARAB DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS: Representatives from six Arab financing institutions will meet in Amman late March to discuss plans to finance and loan various Arab projects with the aim of serving socio-economic development projects in the Arab World. (Petra)

RED SEA RESOURCES: The University of Jordan reached an agreement with the Suez Canal University, as well as the universities of Khartoum, and Riyadh to start a new joint project designed to explore natural resources in the Red Sea. The project is intended to locate natural resources in the region, to define their economic feasibility, and to exchange information and expertise in various fields of scientific research. (Petra)

CANADIAN AIDE VISITS JUST: Jordan University of Science and Technology (JUST) President Dr. Kamel Ajlouni Thursday met with Jan Devlin, from the Canadian Institution for Developing Scientific Programmes, and discussed cooperation between JUST and Canadian universities in various spheres. Ajlouni also briefed the guest on stages of development of the university, in addition to its role in promoting development plans. (Petra)

JD 5M. BUDGET FOR IRBID CITY: Irbid Mayor Dr. Abdul Razzaq Tbeishat Friday said the Irbid municipality budget for 1989 amounted to JD 5,037,000. He added that JD 1,500,000 have been allocated for development projects, and that efforts would shortly be exerted to achieve the idea of greater Irbid. (Petra)

MA'AN EDUCATIONAL PROJECTS: The education department in Ma'an Governorate has reported that the sum of JD 2,816,000 has been spent on educational projects in the governorate in 1988. The projects include building schools, laboratories, libraries, classes, clinics, and housing units for teachers. (Petra)

JD 875,000 MADABA BUDGET: Madaba Mayor Ahmad Qteish announced that Madaba municipality budget for 1989 amounted to JD 875,000. (Petra)

MAFRAQ HEALTH PROJECTS: The Health Department is currently executing health projects in Mafraq Governorate at the cost of JD 600,000. These projects include building a hospital and a number of clinics. (Petra)

SUPPLY LAW VIOLATOR FINED: The military court has fined Samir Subhi Abdullah Hussein JD 40 or eighty days in prison for violating the supply law. The court also sentenced Mohammad Khalifah Ahmad Mohammad to ten years imprisonment with hard labour and the payment of JD 5,000 for drug trafficking. The military governor endorsed both sentences. (Petra)

371 SHIPS DOCKED IN AQABA IN '88: A total of 371 ships docked in Aqaba last year, a spokesman for the Ports Corporation said Sunday. The source added that the number of passengers arriving in Aqaba through the Aqaba-Nuweiba sea route was 491,643, while the number of departing passengers was 226,847 during the year 1988. The sources also said that a total of 90,493 passengers arrived in Aqaba via Suez-Aqaba sea link, while 11,088 passengers left Aqaba for Egypt using the same sea route. (Petra)

European cultural week starts with films, exhibition

AMMAN (Petra): — The Royal Cultural Centre is offering both Jordanians and foreigners an additional treat this week. The European Cultural Week, which began Friday, is featuring seven of Europe's best movies free of charge, plus a photographic exhibition.

Attempts are also being made to present the exhibition in Karak, Falkowski said.

"We will also use the opportunity of the cultural week to present European culture to school children," he said.

School children from both private and public schools will be transported to the RCC throughout the week to watch matinees.

The exhibition entitled "Town Squares of Europe" does homage to Europe's urban heritage through a look at the town square over the ages, from the Agora to the newest city planning, taking

WHAT'S GOING ON

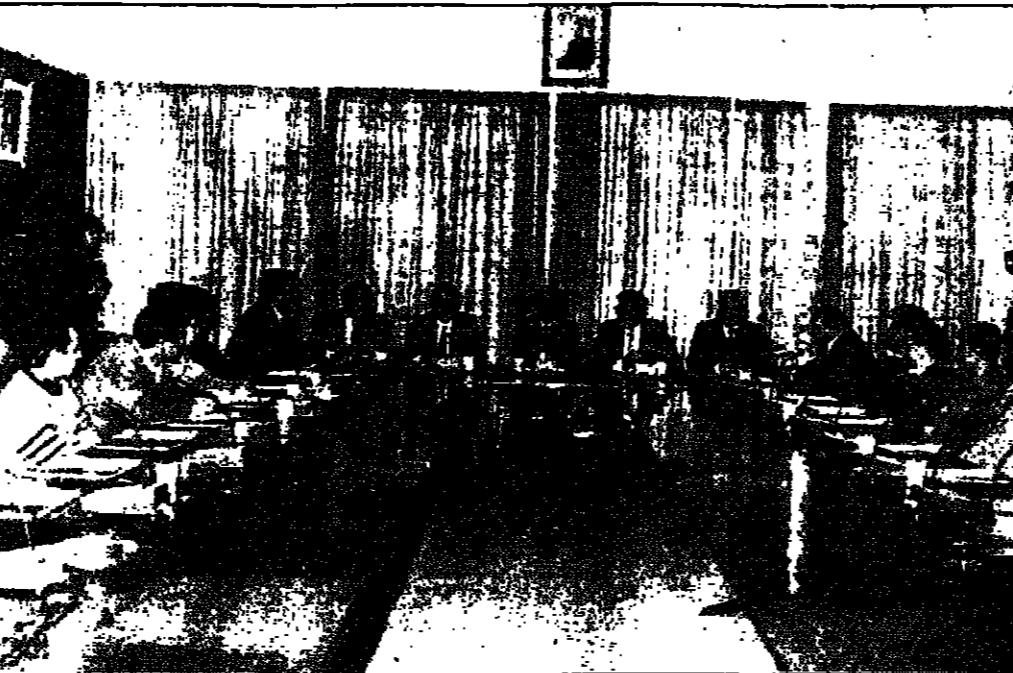
The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

EXHIBITIONS

- ★ An art exhibition by Paul and Emanuel Girajosian at Abdul Hamid Shoman Foundation — 6:00 p.m.
- ★ An exhibition of lithographies by French artist Jean-Paul Chambas at the French Cultural Centre.
- ★ The Arab Contemporary Artists exhibition at Al Wasit Gallery.
- ★ An exhibition of drawings and watercolours of German Romanticism at Mu'ta University — 11:00 a.m.

FILM

- ★ A French film entitled Le Nom de la Rose which is shown as part of the European Film Week at the Royal Cultural Centre — 8:00 p.m.



Speaker of the Upper House of Parliament Ahmad Al Lawzi Thursday receives a group of teachers and students from the University of Jordan at the Parliament House (Petra photo)

Lawzi briefs university delegation on Jordan's development schemes

AMMAN (Petra): — A group of teachers and students from the University of Jordan on Thursday called at Parliament House and met with Speaker of the Upper House of Parliament Ahmad Al Lawzi for a discussion on Jordanian affairs and the development of parliamentary life in the Kingdom over the years.

Lawzi reviewed at the meeting

the various difficulties which the country had faced and said that despite the difficulties the Kingdom has been able to safeguard its democratic institutions.

The two houses of parliament, Lawzi said, had been able to exercise its duties in the field of enacting legislations and contributing to the development of the

Kingdom.

Lawzi also spoke in detail about Jordan's achievements under His Majesty King Hussein's rule, the development schemes designed to raise the standard of living and boost the national economy, as well as the latest governmental measures to stimulate the national economy.

Registration of candidates for writers' award starts

AMMAN (Petra): — The Ministry of Culture and National Heritage has opened the door for the registration of candidates wishing to take part in competitions for winning the state's awards for writings in cultural, economic, scientific and other fields for 1989.

The announcement was made by Minister of Culture and National Heritage Mohammad Hammouri, who said that all arrangements have been

for the competitions in literary writing, scientific, economic art, social and other subjects.

The minister said that all works should be in Arabic and that candidates should not have won other state awards for similar endeavours.

The minister said that a general art exhibition for artists will be organised in July 1989 and urged all artists to contribute to the event.

grammes.

Yoghurt made from 100 per cent fresh milk will cost 350 fils for 1,000 grammes, 175 fils for 500 grammes, 75 fils for 200 grammes, and 680 fils for 1,800

Lamban will cost 1,300 fils for 1,000 grammes, 650 fils for 500 grammes and 325 fils for 250 grammes.

If made partly from powdered milk and partly from fresh cow milk, yoghurt will sell for 170 fils for 500 grammes, 85 fils for 200 grammes, while laban will sell for 480 fils for 500 grammes, and 250 fils for 250 grammes.

Meanwhile the Ministry of Supply said Thursday that it had distributed 40 tonnes of mutton and 40 tonnes of beef to butchers around the country which had witnessed a period of shortages of the two commodities lately.

According to the paper's report special arrangements will be made for the month of Ramadan when nearly 10 plane loads of mutton and eight plane loads of beef will be arriving on a daily basis.

Regional seminar urges introduction of new trends in teaching science

AMMAN (Petra, J.T.): — A four-day seminar on matters related to teaching of science and technology in the Arab World ended here Thursday with the participants calling on Arab states to modernise their curricula and introduce new trends in the science and technology teaching at schools.

They emphasised the importance of linking the needs of the local communities, especially in the areas of the environment, health and housing, to science and technology, and on the need to include such matters in school textbooks for the benefit of the children at an early age.

A final statement issued at the closing session urged educationalists and authorities in charge of

education in the Arab World to adopt the most up to date methods in teaching science and technology and to train teachers in their application at schools.

The statement said that students at all school stages should be encouraged to develop their talents, through practical work, in matters related to science and technology, and in skills that ought to be encouraged and expanded, at schools with greater facilities than those existing at present.

The statement also urged Arab states to exchange with one another experiences and information acquired in the field of applying science and technology in schools, to try to establish a

pan-Arab institution that can manufacture laboratory implements and instruments, to set up scientific clubs and benefit from the facilities and services offered by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO).

Delegates from Jordan and six other Arab countries took part in the regional meeting, which was organised by the Ministry of Education in cooperation with UNESCO's International Information Network for Science and Technology Education.

UNESCO officials said that the delegates reviewed working papers on modern trends in science education and the present teaching of science and technology in the Arab World.

Group from territories occupied since 1948 returns from lesser pilgrimage

AMMAN (Petra, J.T.): — A group of pilgrims from territories occupied by Israel since 1948 has returned to Amman after performing the lesser pilgrimage in Mecca and Medina in cooperation with Saudi authorities.

The pilgrims have been housed by the Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs at the Pilgrims City in the Jordan Valley where facilities and services are available for pilgrims crossing into Jordan from the occupied Palestine on their annual pilgrimage in Saudi Arabia.

The Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs held a ceremony at the site to welcome the pil-

grims back and arranged for their departure home via the King Hussein Bridge across the Jordan River. Local officials and dignitaries were present at the ceremony.

COURSES FOR GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS: Jordan Institute for Management (JIM) will hold training courses for people applying for the government posts to orient them on the nature of the duties they might be assigned to do. The JIM will also hold special training courses for government staff eligible for promotion from the third to second category and from the second to the first category. Such training courses are a prerequisite for promotion, as stipulated by the new civil service regulation for the year 1988. The JIM last year organised such training courses for government employees eligible for promotion from the second to the first category. (Petra)

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U.S. must practice what it preaches

THE ARAB World has always entertained the fear that Israel controls the U.S. policy towards the Middle East to the extent that it even tells Washington how to vote on U.N. resolutions concerning the Arab-Israeli conflict in all its dimensions. Such fears will be vindicated if Washington submits to Israel's demand that the U.S. government should revoke its decision to engage the PLO in an explanatory dialogue aiming for the settlement of the Palestinian question on the pretext that some armed men belonging to some PLO factions were killed by Israeli troops on Lebanese territory few days ago. Once again, Israel assigned to itself many roles and attired the robes of prosecutor and judge all at the same time in that incident. All this has happened while Israel was engaged in the tactic of kill now and ask later.

If the U.S. decides to act negatively towards the PLO and suspend its dialogue with the organisation on the strength of the Israeli allegation then Arab suspicions that Washington is forever enslaved to the whims of Israel and cannot ever separate its national interests from those of Israel would be irrevocably confirmed. If anything, the U.S. is called upon to act on its own State Department's 1988 human rights report which clearly accuses Israel of committing grave human rights violations against Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza Strip during 1988, and on a scale unrecorded in the annals of Israel's human rights record in the occupied territories. The U.S. assertions about Israel's escalation of its human rights abuses were meticulously chronicled and substantiated in the report which was submitted to the House of Representatives Appropriation Sub-Committee on Foreign Operations, which oversees foreign assistance including aid to Israel. The report speaks of grave human rights violations perpetrated throughout the unending Palestinian uprising. The detailed list of these violations includes shooting to kill Palestinians when the lives of Israeli troops were not threatened, utter disregard for the rights of children in pursuing its wild shooting of demonstrators, and meting punishments on Palestinian unproportionate to their alleged acts while imposing mild or no punishment on Israelis caught committing graver acts against Arabs.

Since the U.S. appropriates aid to countries on the bases of their human rights record, this is a chance of a life time for Washington to practice what it preaches by at least cutting down considerably on its huge aid to Israel instead of lending to Israel's outrageous demand that the American-Palestinian talks end.

Fishing in murky waters

DURING these trying times in the Middle East region, there is an urgent need, more than anytime in the past, for honest and balanced reporting. Otherwise, only hostile forces would benefit from any attempt to disseminate falsehoods or disinformation. International news agencies with international standing bear the heaviest responsibility of all in stemming the outflow of half truths, innuendoes, or plain falsehoods on any country where they have the privilege to report from. No noble purpose can be served if news agencies, located in the various countries of the world, are allowed to act like vultures in search of only negative or sensational reporting or by always fishing in murky waters. Any such false reporting can only serve as food on which the enemies of a country, subject to such frenzied reporting, would scavenge.

A case in point is last Wednesday's editorial of the Jordan Times in which an honest and balanced effort was made to highlight many bright and promising economic news about Jordan including the well-founded conviction that oil will be found in the country before long and that such reasonable forecast, when taken in conjunction with the strengthening and consolidating of the export-oriented Jordanian industries and the curbing of the outflow of hard currencies from Jordanian pockets, would spell a new boom era within a reasonable time. Such a balanced economic prognosis is indeed shared by many international monetary organisations which go to the length of projecting that the Jordanian economy would come around in a year or so. And as mentioned earlier, such an inevitable conclusion could be accelerated even more when Arab economic aid is resumed to help Jordan meet its huge regional defence needs.

Yet some Western news agencies, operating in Jordan, deliberately and wantonly chose to downgrade all such positive developments and signals and instead highlight a sideline in the editorial calling for a cost of living adjustment in Jordan and out of full context and in a distorted manner. The cycle of disinformation was of course taken up by Israel and its mass media which played up the cost of living proposal in complete isolation of its full context as if to insinuate that all is "bad" in Jordan's economy. Such Israeli rabid attacks on Jordan's well being and security fits in with Israel's malicious efforts to undermine the stability of this country to accommodate its sinister designs on the future of Jordan and Jordanians. The least that one would expect from news agencies operating in Jordan is to honour their commitment to report fair and honest reporting within the right context and not just bits and pieces that would only further the designs of the enemies of the country and at the expense of their own credibility and reputation.

Return of Bhuttoism

By Maggie James

LONDON — The shoulders of Pakistan have taken on a lighter mantle since Benazir Bhutto of the Pakistan People's Party became the leader of the country, replacing the harsh regime of the late Zia Ul Haq. But she faces a tough road ahead.

As informed observers say, she may be in government, but she is not in power. Although born into a political family, daughter of the late prime minister, Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, she has had relatively little political experience, and the legacy of her father, his downfall and subsequent execution exemplified the hardest political lesson of all.

The rise and fall of Zulfikar Ali Bhutto and assessment of his legacy is outlined in a detailed political study by Pakistani writer Shahid Javed Burki entitled *Pakistan Under Bhutto 1971-1977*, published by Macmillan Press.

On December 20, 1971, Pakistan's second military government under General Yahya Khan handed over the country's administration to Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, chairman of the Pakistan People's Party (PPP). On July 5, 1977, the military, after deposing Bhutto, reassured political and administrative control over the country.

During the 67 months that Bhutto was in power — first as president and then as prime minister — he introduced "some important changes in Pakistan's society, in its economy and in its political system," says Burki, a former civil servant and current director of China department at the World Bank. An analysis of those changes, why they were introduced and their consequences form the thrust of Burki's study.

Bhutto was the only son of Sir Shahnawaz Bhutto, a wealthy and well-known landlord from Sind who himself had been active in politics. "Zulfi" had been carefully prepared for a career in politics and was the heir to a powerful political empire that had been built by his father in central Sind.

In 1970, Bhutto and his party walked into what was virtually a political vacuum in Pakistan. Although he himself was a creation of military rule, he was the only civilian leader who had succeeded in cultivating a political constituency for himself, says Burki.

Bhutto was not alone in predicting that he would last a long time in office. Political observers inside and outside Pakistan were generally impressed with the firm control that he had established over all the important institutions in the country. And yet, within four months of taking office, his government was shaken by a violent but very well organised opposition campaign.

In Burki's view Bhutto's "descent from power proved to be as precipitous and quick as his ascent had been six years earlier."

In seeking to remould Pakistani society, says Burki, Bhutto and his associates also sowed the seeds of their own political destruction. "The expectation that Bhutto would learn — or perhaps had already learnt — from the mistakes made by his military predecessors, when combined with the perception that the task of political and economic reconstruction that Ayub Khan (Yahya Khan's predecessor) had assumed in 1958 led people to believe that Pakistan in 1972 had finally overcome most of its serious problems, Bhutto, too, encouraged this belief."

But he asserts that Bhutto's fall from power wasn't entirely due to his failure to learn lessons from history. He was too shrewd a politician for that and his involvement

ment in the history, from which he could learn, was too deep for him to have remained totally uninfluenced.

Burki maintains that Bhutto alienated his supporters with his policies and it was the process rather than the substance of his policies which caused his downfall. "He failed to comprehend that in implementing a number of the economic and social measures adopted by his administration he needed the backing of the broad coalition that had helped him into power.

This support would have been available if the constituencies that Bhutto had cultivated assiduously during 1969-71 had been consulted not only in determining the objectives the administration was to adopt, but also in deciding on the manner in which they were to be achieved. Since this was not done there occurred quick attrition in Bhutto's political support and a number of followers walked out of the PPP camp and went into that of the opposition, the Pakistan National Alliance.

It seems that Bhutto managed to straddle the disparate worlds of the Pakistan elite and the underprivileged masses, but failed to communicate with the middle classes. "It was General Zia Ul Haq who had his finger on the quickening pulse of the Pakistani middle class: the middle class's pulse quickened as they began to perceive the meaning of the structural changes that were being introduced by Zulfikar Ali Bhutto's administration," asserts Burki.

In 1974, which Burki claims was the watershed in Bhutto's political career, he abandoned the middle classes as political constituency to be cultivated. But those same middle classes had tremendous political power from the changed social composition of the armed forces.

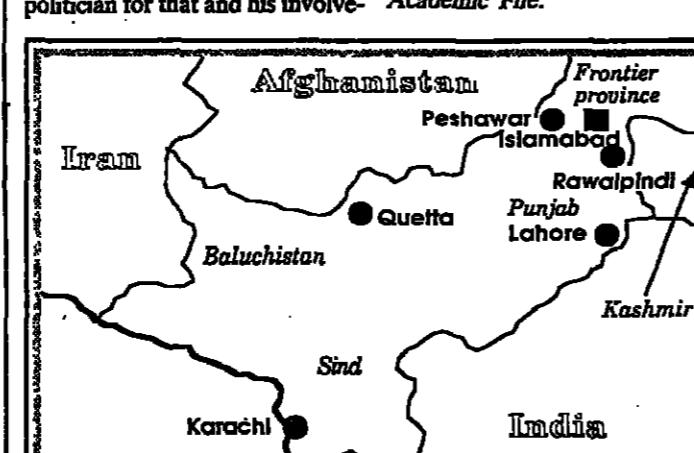
Supporters of "Bhuttoism" still thrive. Burki explains that it has four different interpretations, which cannot be reconciled in one economic programme. "The underprivileged segments of the society continue to believe that middle classes resisted Bhutto's effort to alleviate poverty, to provide access to the poor for basic human needs, and to arrange for a better participation of the poor in the social and political life of the country." For the poor, Bhuttoism means the promise to achieve these objectives.

For most of the middle classes, Bhuttoism has a negative connotation, explains Burki. It means an attack on the values that the middle classes (*the shuras*) hold dear. For some members of the middle class — in particular the urban intelligentsia — Bhuttoism also means non-alignment in foreign policy, the freedom, that is to say, to follow Pakistan's own diplomatic objectives rather than those of the United States.

Yet again the elites have another interpretation of Bhuttoism. To them, it means a political and economic arrangement that wins the support of the landless poor, the industrial workers, the urban labour without major economic sacrifices being made by the propertied classes.

Hanged in 1979, after protracted legal efforts to save his life, Bhutto was condemned for participating in a conspiracy to murder a political opponent. "In the eyes of many in the West, the movement that led to Bhutto's fall was unexpected and undivided," concludes Burki.

"In the opinion of many in Pakistan, the prime minister deserved not only to be thrown out of power but also the treatment that he received once he was deposed. In both cases, Bhutto's fate was interpreted as that of a man with some exceptional qualities, good and bad." — Academic File.



	Pakistan	Nigeria
Population mid-1986	99.2m	103.1m
Area in thousands of square kms	804	924
GDP per capita	\$350	\$640
Major oil exporter?	No	Yes
Inflation 1980-86 average	7.5% a year	10.5% a year
Life expectancy	52 years	51 years
Food production per capita on a scale of 100	104	103
Total estimated reserves '86	\$1,465m	\$1,350m
Total estimated debt '86	\$13,620m	21,576m

Source: World Development Report 1988

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U.S. acknowledges Israeli violations of Palestinian human rights

WASHINGTON — Israeli army, caught by surprise by the intifada in the West Bank and Gaza and untrained in riot control, responded in a manner which led to a substantial increase in human rights violations in the occupied territories, according to Paul J. Hare, acting assistant secretary of state for Near Eastern and South Asian affairs.

Testifying before the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Foreign Operations February 7, Hare said, "In hundreds of confrontations between Israeli troops and Palestinians throwing stones or Molotov cocktails, the army responded with gunfire. Casualties resulted." Hare added that the State Department continues to receive reports of beatings, increased administrative detentions and deportations of Palestinians.

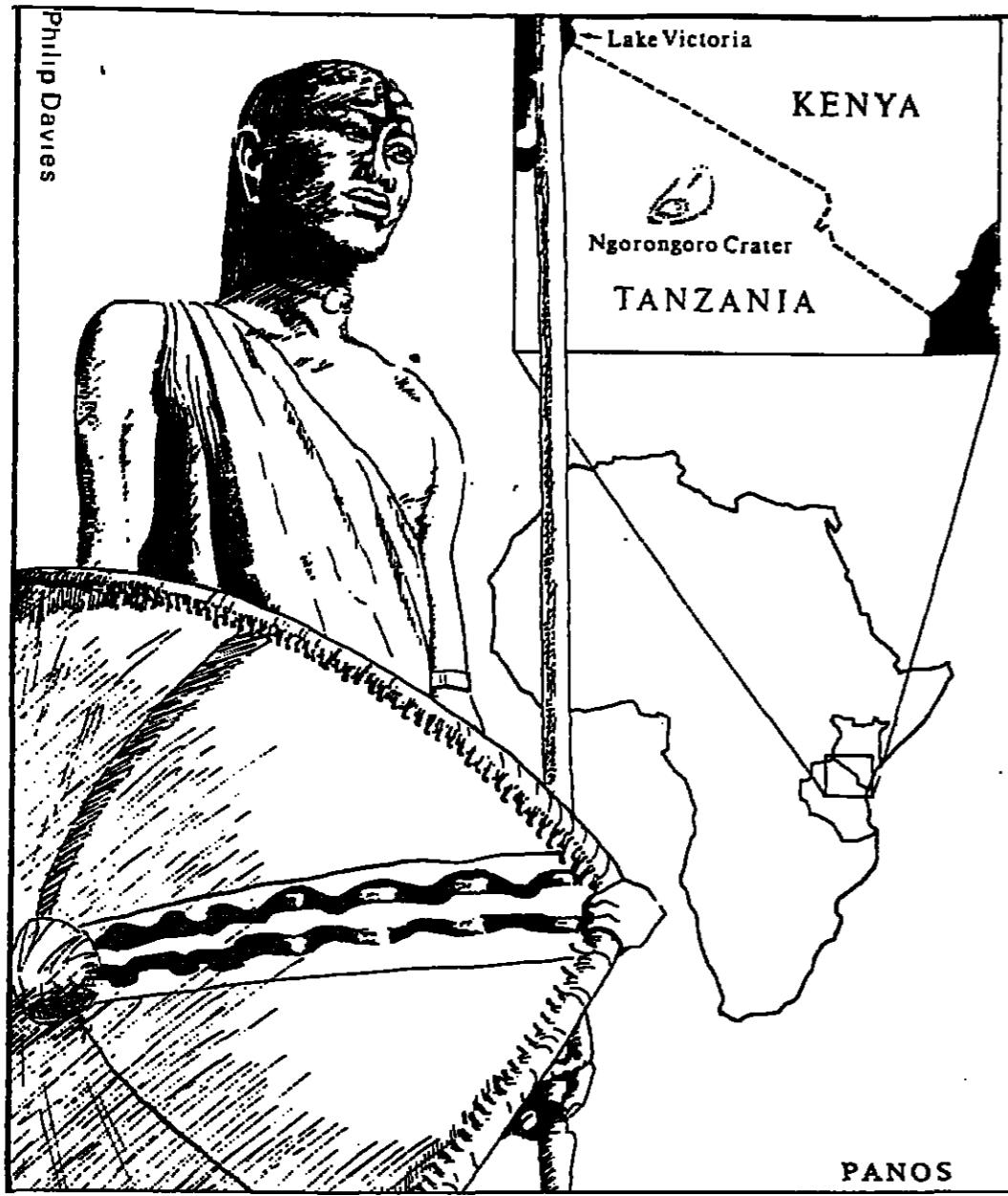
White acknowledging that Israel has the responsibility to maintain order in the occupied territories, Hare said, "We have objected to the use of excessive force to do so. Israel is well aware of our views and we will continue to ask the Israelis to use minimum force in maintaining order. We have also made known to Israel our objections to administrative detentions and deportations, which stir up Palestinian resentment, inhibit dialogue and deny Palestinians access to an open legal process ... We will continue to urge restraint on all sides and to exert efforts to move the parties toward negotiations and a political settlement."

In hundreds of confrontations between Israeli troops and Palestinians throwing stones or Molotov cocktails, the army responded with gunfire. Casualties resulted. We continue to receive reports of beatings as well as of increased administrative detentions and deportations of Palestinians.

Following is the part of the testimony applying to the occupied territories.

Features

JORDAN TIMES, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 1989 5



Children of misfortune

By Sam Seibert and Richard Vockey

MANILA — Most residents of the southern Philippine city of Bacolod seem to shun the homeless children who roam their streets. It's not hard to guess why: the kids can be dirty and troublesome and light-fingered. Even the local Roman Catholic priests turn away, says 11-year-old Manuel. "We wave to them, but they never wave back." Manuel is one of the 50 or so street children who frequent Anita Gonzalez's one-room soup kitchen in the centre of Bacolod. Most of the kids range between 10 and 14 years old, but some are as young as six. Every day Gonzalez scrapes together roughly \$5 worth of food from private donations to keep them all from starving. Since Gonzalez doesn't have enough money, the kids must use their own resources to get clothes and medicine and a place to sleep. They manage. Boys and girls who can't panhandle or steal enough to survive have another way to earn a living. They sell their bodies to the foreigners who are lured to Bacolod by its reputa-

tion for child prostitution. A 12-year-old friend of Manuel's says catering to strangers' sexual desires is repulsive but tolerable — as long as you deaden your senses beforehand by sniffing plenty of glue.

Of all the many problems in the Philippines, none is more dismaying than the plight of the children. The homeless ones — no one knows how many thousands of them — are an inescapable presence in a dozen provincial cities like Bacolod. As many as 75,000 unwanted kids, by official estimates, live in the streets of Manila. That doesn't include the children who are simply in desperate need. The Department of Social Welfare and Development calculates the total number of homeless, neglected, abused and handicapped youngsters in the Philippines to be possibly as high as 2.5 million — one out of every 24 Filipinos. And every day there are more; the Philippines' rate of population growth is the highest in Southeast Asia. Still, the govern-

ment of President Corazon Aquino has failed to develop an effective family-planning programme; indeed, it has allowed the one that existed under her ousted predecessor, Ferdinand Marcos, to founder. "It's like witnessing an act of self-destruction," says one exasperated Western diplo-

matic in Manila. "Letting it bleed to death due to cabinet bickering and delays is a more subtle route." The president herself concedes that the government has a "duty" to inform Filipinos about the family-planning options available to them. But she makes no apology for giving priority to other social issues. "What is really more important is to improve the economy," she said

The church carries its message beyond the government to the Philippine people. Last September the archbishop of Manila, Cardinal Jaime Sin, directed his priests to read a letter from their pulpits condemning all methods

of artificial contraception. More recently, when Philippine radio and television stations began airing a series of government-sponsored radio and television ads that described various means of birth control, the cardinal publicly objected to the offense.

Weary mothers: Despite the church's action and the government's inaction, population analysts insist that there is demand for family-planning services in the Philippines. Surveys have indicated that among the country's urban poor, as many as two thirds of all mothers wish they could stop having children. — Newsweek.



Broken promises and missed deadlines: Hungry urchins on the island of Negros

Maasai in conservation conflict

By Hiklach Ogola

Ngorongoro, one of the world's great natural wonders, is also a battleground where the interests of Maasai tribespeople conflict with conservation and tourism.

NGORONGORO, Tanzania — Ngorongoro area, one of the great natural wonders of the world, is also the scene of a tough battle between the interests of Maasai tribespeople on the one hand, and conservation and tourism on the other.

However, the establishment of a government commission to investigate Ngorongoro has currently given the Maasai hope of being consulted about plans for their future.

The 8,300 square kilometre Ngorongoro Conservation Area (NCA), in northern Tanzania, is surrounded by five dormant volcanoes with a vast crater at the centre. The grassland, scrub, forest, salt lakes, fresh water pools, bubbling springs and grazing land, thus forcing them to agriculture.

Footprint remains of the 1.75 million-year-old Zinjthropus man add even more to the attractions.

But the NCA is part of the original land of the Maasai tribe. And although the NCA is a multiple-use zone designed to cater for the interests of conservation, archaeology and the 15,000 resi-

dent Maasai, land-use conflicts have arisen — and the Maasai people have suffered most. Conservation interests have undermined human development.

NCAA

The Ngorongoro Conservation Area Authority (NCAA), which is legally empowered to promote these interests, believes that the Maasai are a threat to wildlife. The NCAA considers Maasai pastoral land use and livestock development incompatible with the conservation of the environment and development of tourism.

The NCAA has suggested that the Maasai be evicted.

But the tribespeople insist that they know, from at least 200 years of experience, that they can live harmoniously with wildlife. They argue that their major means of livelihood — raising livestock — has been thwarted by NCAA failure to provide a proper water supply, cattle dips and grazing land, thus forcing them to agriculture.

The Maasai say that there is enough space for both conservation and development since the areas of interest to conservation — forests, the crater and the Olduvai Gorge — constitute only 13 per cent of the NCA.

The Ngorongoro Commission has been appointed at a time when the government and the International Union of Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN) are undertaking

a joint study project in the area. IUCN's East African regional representative, Robert Malpas, says the project's recommendations will revolve around four main options.

One is to evict all the Maasai from NCA. The commission is unlikely to go for this, however, since the Maasai have a birthright to the land. If they were evicted, it would be the second such episode in three decades and a breach of a 1959 agreement under which the government guaranteed priority for Maasai interests in case of land-use conflicts in Ngorongoro.

Serengeti

The Maasai agreed then to settle in the area after being evicted from Serengeti, giving way to the formation of the Serengeti National Park.

The NCAA's gradual hounding of the Maasai from their original land on the grounds that they cannot live in areas occupied by wildlife has been strongly opposed by some members of parliament. The politicians question NCAA's reluctance to provide basic services for the Maasai. Picking on the eviction option would be a radical change that would spark off more conflicts.

On the other hand, the commission cannot recommend the second option — that the Maasai retain all their original land for livestock-keeping and agriculture. Too much is at stake for the government in Ngorongoro. It is a biologically, historically, scientifically, aesthetically and economically important ecosystem which, says the Director of Tourism, Madina Ngororo, contributes over a tenth of the money generated by wildlife viewing in Tanzania.

The two other options boil down to harmonious co-habiting of the Maasai with conservation

interests. One way of doing this, says Malpas, is to continue banning agriculture and introduce a food supply system for the Maasai from outside.

The system might reduce pressure on conservation interests, but it would paralyse the Maasai. The volcanic deposits in the NCA provide fertile and well-watered soils on which the Maasai have gradually been developing agricultural practices following the drastic fall in their herds.

Co-habiting conservation and Maasai interests by earmarking and controlling specific development areas in the NCA remains the soundest option likely to be put forward by the IUCN project. In turn, it is likely to be recommended by the commission.

Such an option would be welcomed by the Maasai.

/Panos

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Bush budget shifts priorities

WASHINGTON (AP) — President George Bush has proposed changing the direction of the U.S. budget by moving money from the military to social programmes with increases recommended for cleaning up the environment and AIDS research.

In his first major policy speech to Congress, Bush called Friday for a \$1.1 billion spending plan that would save \$2.6 billion from the budget package proposed by former president Ronald Reagan.

"This budget represents my best judgment of how we can address our priorities, consistent with the budget's view," the Republican president said. "There are many areas in which we would all like to spend more than I propose, but we'll wait until we get our budget in order."

Senate Joe Biden, a Democratic senator from the Senate Budget Committee, said: "The Bush administration has signaled

an end to the defence buildup and has indicated they're willing to slow some defence expenditures into meeting domestic needs like education."

The vast majority of Reagan's budget was carried over by Bush, who as part of his no-growth "flexible freeze" policy, set a spending ceiling for hundreds of programmes roughly equal to what Reagan proposed. But Bush appealed to Congress to join him in shifting money between programmes within this group so long as the totals still meet deficit-reduction goals.

Bush claimed he met his pledge of no new general tax increase, but he did propose continuing

two taxes that are scheduled to expire or decline — the three per cent federal tax on local and long distance telephone calls and the eight per cent tax on airline tickets.

The Bush budget document says the federal deficit would be reduced to less than \$91.1 billion next year, just slightly lower than the \$92.5 billion in Reagan's proposal and within the \$100 billion fiscal 1990 limit of a budget-balancing law.

Bush administration officials estimate the deficit in the current fiscal year, which ends Sept. 30, will be about \$163.3 billion — more than \$2 billion higher than Reagan estimated last month.

The new president's military outlays of \$298.2 billion this year would just keep up with inflation and increase to \$300.3 billion.

Bush proposed increasing subsidies for energy development and scientific research, under the theme of international competitiveness.

Europeans boost trade success

BOLOGNA (R) — West Germany Thursday announced a record trade surplus for 1988, but its success at the expense looks certain to come from its European Community (EC) partners.

"West Germany's surplus with countries like France, Britain and Italy is increasing most rapidly," said Michael Reid, international economist at Salomon and Drew in London. "It's bound to continue."

West Germany's bulging surplus has been punctuated frequent criticism from Washington, the last two years, but the emphasis is shifting to EC countries which are buying more than half of its exports, Mr. Reid said.

"West Germany's biggest trading partner, France, is not doing so well, and it has suffered

markedly from significant trade gap with the United States," Mr. Reid said. "In 1985 and 1986, France was responsible for the bulk of the gap."

France has suffered by the Federal Republic's move put the trade surplus at 11.2 billion marks (\$6.9 billion) last year compared with a record of 11.7 billion (\$7.4 billion) in 1987.

France's record, coupled with the overall economic weakness worry West German officials. Though the economy, the softer mark and inflation higher in Germany, food prices have been stable.

Unemployment last month rose by 1.1 per cent and the government is increasing the annual rate of 2.5 per cent to 1.2 per cent last

year.

The Bundesbank, West Germany's central bank, has said over recent months that the mark's rise is stalling progress in reducing world trade imbalances.

The central bank raised its key

lending rates last month in a bid to prop the mark, which has lost 1.7 per cent of its value against a basket of 14 major currencies since the start of 1989.

Economists said West Germany's trade surplus would create tension within the European Monetary System (EMS) — a currency management operation among eight EC members excluding Britain, Greece, Spain and Portugal — and could cause a realignment of currency parities later this year.

"France and Italy are reluctant to maintain high interest rates to prop up their currencies," said Reid.

But agreement on an EMS realignment may be hard to achieve because of the political

implications for individual members.

"A decision for a realignment is more political than economic," said Peter Pietsch of Commerzbank in Frankfurt. "If European countries want unchanged exchange rates, they will have to accept trading imbalances with West Germany even if they do this with displeasure."

Although consumer tax increased imposed in West Germany this year are expected to dampen economic growth to 2.5 per cent from 3.4 per cent in 1988, exports will continue booming.

Economists are forecasting another big trade surplus this year, with some estimates as high as 142 billion marks (\$76 billion).

Marxist theory, Stalinist system come under fire

MOSCOW (AP) — A leading Soviet economist says key parts of Marxist theory were wrong, and said the Soviet Union would soon act on that conclusion by selling private homes and land.

Speaking at a foreign ministry press conference, Oleg Bogomolov also admitted that "the Stalinist system was borrowed or imposed on other countries" and Marx failed to stand the test of time."

Socialist countries are now trying their own ways, he said. "Diversity of experience and views is not a sign of weakness but a source of power," he said.

He said the Soviet Union had banned farming private property left farmers with no concern for the land and long-term development. He predicted that the pending legalisation of family farms will go further than previously stated, and allow them to choose their own crops and sell them at market prices.

The Soviet Union is looking to the farming system of Hungary in hopes of restoring "the farmer's interest in investing in the land," Bogomolov said. He predicted long-term, "even lifetime" leases on farmland, and outright sale of plots for private houses.

mic interests of each other are equally important as in the past but now are realised more fully," he said. "Perhaps there were some violations," he said.

Now, he said, "we still adhere to Marxist theories, but so much of this theory should be adjusted because many of the theories of Marx failed to stand the test of time."

Socialist countries are now trying their own ways, he said. "Diversity of experience and views is not a sign of weakness but a source of power," he said.

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EUROPEAN CULTURAL WEEK: Film Festival & Exhibition

10 - 17 February 1989

Royal Cultural Centre

Programme of films:

- Feb. 10: "Taso" (Spain)
- Feb. 11: "Soldiers of Orange" (Netherlands)
- Feb. 12: "Ginger & Fred" (Italy)
- Feb. 13: "The Name of the Rose" (France)
- Feb. 14: "A Month in the Country" (United Kingdom)
- Feb. 15: "Benvenuto" (Belgium)
- Feb. 16: "Men" (F.R. Germany)
- Feb. 17: "Underground Passage" (Greece)

An exhibition entitled "Town Squares of Europe" is on display to the public every day from Feb. 10 to Feb. 17. Please collect free tickets from the box office of the Royal Cultural Centre (661026) between the hours of 5 - 8 p.m.

Europeans fear M.E. 'dumping'

Saudis to open new refinery soon

ABU DHABI (R) — A new Saudi Arabian oil refinery will soon start operating on the kingdom's west coast at Rabigh after a delay of several years, Gulf oil industry sources have reported.

They also said Iraq's oil terminal at the end of its second pipeline through Saudi Arabia (IPSA-2) to a new terminal at Yanbu on the west coast was completed. It will eventually boost Baghdad's export capacity by nearly 50 per cent.

"I am not in favour of protectionism but I think it is reasonable to have some limitation on the importation of products from the Middle East or from elsewhere," said Michel Pecqueur, chairman of state-owned Societe Nationale Elf Aquitaine.

Total Compagnie Francaise des Petroles Chairman Francois-Xavier Ortoli last month called on new European commissioners to review the EC's oil refining policy.

"The Mediterranean is threatened with what is in effect dumped Middle East, especially

Saudi, fuel oil," said Nicholas Antill, oil analyst at stockbrokers Wood Mackenzie in London.

He said European refiners have for some time been worried about Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) plans to move into downstream activities like refining and marketing.

A spokesman for Total said the company feared its efforts to improve refining productivity, which hit profit and turnover last year, would be undermined by unrestricted product imports.

Pecqueur said Elf needs to cut capacity further, even though the

sector broke even last year after years of losses.

"It's clear that we have to shut down capacity. We have to improve the efficiency of our refining," he said.

Pecqueur added in an interview with Reuters: "Europe has tried to diversify its sources of crude, to diversify its sources of energy in order not to be too dependent on the Middle East. If they are again dependent on the Middle East for refining activity, it will be a non-sense."

French oil firms are among seven groups trying to form a pressure group in Brussels.

20 big arms firms to exhibit in Iraq

BAGHDAD (AP) — More than 20 major arms companies from Western Europe, China and the Soviet Bloc will take part in the Baghdad defence equipment exhibition scheduled to open April 28, the Al Ittihad business weekly has reported. The newspaper, mouthpiece of the Iraqi General Federation of Chambers of Commerce, said the companies include France's Thompson-CSF, Marca, Aerospatiale and Dassault groups and Italy's Fiat. France was Iraq's second biggest arms supplier after the Soviet Union during the eight-year-old war with Iran before fighting halted with a United Nations-sponsored ceasefire Aug. 20. The weekly quoted Industry Minister Hussein Kamel as saying the five-day exhibition will allow Iraqi companies to expand their links with foreign defence manufacturers to boost Iraq's military industry, he said. Iraq has claimed to build its own long-range missiles, which were used against Iranian cities during the war, and is seeking to develop its own arms industry. Baghdad is believed to be cooperating with Argentina to develop a new missile.

AMMAN EXCHANGE RATES

Thursday, Feb. 9, 1989
Central Bank official rates

	Buy	Sell	French franc	84.6	85.7
U.S. dollar	\$38.0	52.0	Japanese yen (for 100)	416.5	460.0
Pound Sterling	939.9	952.0	Dutch guilder	225.1	258.2
Deutschmark	287.9	291.7	Swedish crown	84.8	85.8
Swiss franc	338.4	343.0	Italian lira (for 100)	39.5	40.0
			Belgian franc (for 10)	137.8	139.2

Amman Financial Market weekly trading

Following is a summary of trading during last week and the previous week:

Feb. 4-8Jan. 28-Feb. 1

Daily average	JD 2,691,491	JD 2,888,228
Total volume	JD 13,457,455	JD 14,441,141
Total shares	6,833,766	10,088,560
No. of contracts	6,166	6,972

Sectoral trading:	Industrial	JD 8,585,701	JD 10,840,540
	(63.8%)	(75.1%)	
Financial	4,122,779	JD 2,156,196	
	(30.6%)	(14.9%)	
Service	1,563/340	(3.9%)	(7.2%)
Insurance		(1.7%)	(2.3%)
Share price index	131.8	134.4	
No. of companies	64	65	
Price movement (rise)	22	61	
(decline)	39	2	
(stable)	3	2	

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Friday.

One Sterling	1.7718/28	U.S. dollar

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Investigations to focus on ill-fated plane's last-minute low altitude flight

Search continues for second 'black box' in Azores crash

SANTA MARIA, Azores (R) — Investigators searched Friday for the second flight recorder of an airliner that crashed in the Azores and Italian Air Force planes arrived to fly home the bodies of most of the 144 dead.

"One black box was found shortly after Wednesday's crash and we are trying to recover the second which should give us more clues to why the plane hit the mountain," chief Portuguese investigator Jose Rocha E Cunha said.

The Boeing 707, on a charter flight from Bergamo in Italy to the Dominican Republic, crashed as it tried to make a routine refuelling stop on the Portuguese mid-Atlantic island.

All aboard, including a U.S. crew of seven, were killed in the worst air disaster on Portuguese soil.

Civil aviation sources said the investigation would focus on why the plane was flying about 500 metres too low as it swung round the cloud-covered Pico Alto mountain in an otherwise normal approach to Santa Maria airport.

"Nothing definite will be known until the inquiry is completed," said Rocha E Cunha whose team was joined on the island by Italian and U.S. aviation officials.

Two Italian military transport planes landed overnight to collect

bodies and about 30 relatives of the victims, mostly from northern Italy, arrived to help identify mutilated remains.

"Some identification may be done on the spot, the rest when the bodies are flown back to Rome or Milan later today when bureaucratic procedures are expected to be completed," an Italian embassy spokesman in Lisbon said.

Ambassador Giovanni Battistini met local officials on Santa Maria to discuss ways of repatriating the victims.

In Italy the disaster prompted calls by newspapers and the public for greater controls of charter airlines, particularly planes as old as the 20-year-old Boeing.

Carlo Jacazzi, manager of the Milan travel agency that organised the holiday flight, said the ill-fated plane had recently been overhauled and modernised.

Independent Air Incorporated, the Tennessee-based company which owned the aircraft, conformed to security standards required by the U.S. authorities, he said.

Representatives of Independ-

dent Air Corporation were to meet Friday in Lisbon with members of the Portuguese Civilian Aviation Authority.

Italian authorities were preparing lead-lined coffins in which to ship home in Italian Air Force transport planes the remains of the tourists and tour operators who had been on their way to Puerto Plata.

There is room for only one of the three Italian Hercules C-130 aircraft on the tarmac at the Santa Maria airport. The other two were waiting at the Lajes airfield on Terceira island.

It was not immediately known at which Italian airports the planes would land or when they would depart.

Dr. Nicola Simone of the Italian police said only 10 of the Italian victims had been positively identified.

There were also reports that the bodies of three of the seven American crew had been identified. It was not clear how the remains of the crew would be returned to the United States.

Jose Martina Freitas, head of the Azores Rescue Service, called off the search for victims Thursday saying remaining of all but two had been found.

But workers at the makeshift morgue set up at Santa Maria airport said they could only account for 132 victims.

Representatives of Independ-

Hunger strike continues; Vlok pledges not to give in

JOHANNESBURG (R) — South Africa's Law and Order Minister Adriaan Vlok said that the government would not give in to "blackmail" by political detainees on hunger strike to win their freedom.

Lawyers representing some of the fasting prisoners accused Vlok of ignoring pleas to visit them and said some detainees were suffering from eye problems, bleeding and giddiness after 17 days without food.

The lawyers said Vlok had not replied to their invitation and waited in vain outside Johannesburg prison, where they had asked the minister to meet them.

Vlok told a news briefing in Cape Town Thursday the hunger strike was an organised attempt to show the government in a bad light and would not force it into making concessions.

"We will try to defuse the situation as soon as possible, but we must remain firm," he said. "We cannot allow ourselves to be blackmailed in this situation."

Foreigners voting debate rages in West Germany

FRANKFURT, West Germany (AP) — A debate is raging in West Germany over proposals to grant limited voting rights to long-time residents from Turkey, Italy and other foreign countries.

Hamburg took a big step toward becoming the first state to sanction limited voting for foreigners when its parliament gave preliminary approval to a draft law Jan. 25. The bill is virtually assured of final passage Feb. 15.

Conservative leaders, facing mounting pressure from right-wingers who demand curbs on foreigners in West Germany, quickly labelled the move "unconstitutional" and threatened to take Hamburg to court to block the change.

"Voting rights for foreigners can only be granted on the European level, not at the national level," Interior Minister Friedrich Zimmermann told the Federal Parliament last Thursday.

Zimmermann, a member of Bavaria's conservative Christian Social Union, said the constitution limits voting rights to "the community of Germans."

Chancellor Helmut Kohl's Christian Democratic Union said it would challenge Hamburg's voting legislation in the supreme court, if it becomes law.

There are 4.6 million foreigners living in West Germany, most of them Turks, Spaniards, Greeks and Yugoslavs.

West Germans who favour limited voting rights note that the foreigners are taxpayers who have no direct voice in government.

"People who are affected by political decisions should be able to take part in those decisions," said Manfred Zuleeg, a judge of the European Court of Justice in Luxembourg. "It's an expression of democracy to let them take part."

New stroke drug may restore learning

WASHINGTON (AP) — A drug approved for some stroke patients also may reinvigorate sluggish, aging brains with the quick-witted learning ability of youth, according to a group of Chicago researchers.

In tests on groups of young and middle-aged rabbits at Northwestern University Medical School, researchers said Thursday that a drug called Nimodipine was able to correct age-related mental slowness so that the older rabbits could learn as well as the younger ones.

"They actually learned at the same rate, if not a slightly faster than the young rabbits," said John Disterhoft, an associate professor of cell biology at Northwestern, who directed the study. Two-thirds of the older rabbits as part of a control group not receiving

the drug never learned the task, he said.

Disterhoft said the experiment was suggested after German doctors noticed that stroke patients seemed to recover some learning losses when they were treated with Nimodipine.

Disterhoft said that although the experiment used only a laboratory test of learning, there is "every reason to believe" that the results would apply to human learning skills.

The Northwestern experiment, reported in the edition of the journal Science for Release Friday, was conducted using four groups of rabbits. Two of the groups were about 30 months old, about middle age for rabbits. The other two groups were young adult rabbits.

Nimodipine was administered to one of the older groups and to one of the younger groups. The others were kept free of the drug to provide control, or comparison, groups.

To test learning ability, all of the rabbits were exposed to the sound of a tone, immediately followed by a mild burst of air against the eye. The air burst causes the eye to blink.

This process was repeated 80 times a day. The researchers measured how soon and how often the rabbits learned to anticipate the burst of air by closing their eyes at the sound of the tone. Each group received 15 training sessions.

Disterhoft said that four of six older rabbits who did not receive Nimodipine never did learn to blink at the sound. The other two did learn, but at a slower rate

than the older rabbits receiving the drug.

"All of the aging Nimodipine animals learned the task in less than eight days of training," he said, and this was very slightly faster than the learning rate shown by both the groups of young rabbits. Disterhoft said Nimodipine, however, did not make the younger rabbits any smarter. The drug appears to help only the aged brain.

Disterhoft said it is not known exactly why the drug appears to restore learning deficits in aging brains, but it may be related to the cellular absorption of calcium. Nimodipine is a calcium channel blocker, which means it prevents cells from taking up excess calcium. This is not related directly to calcium in the diet.



Former tennis star Bjorn Borg, of Sweden, was released from hospital in Milan Wednesday after being treated for an overdose of sleeping pills. He is seen here in a December 1988 file photo with his Italian fiancee, singer Lorena Berté.

Borg denies suicide

ROME (AP) — Former Swedish tennis star Bjorn Borg has dismissed reports that he may have attempted suicide by swallowing barbiturates, calling it "a lot of confusion over nothing."

The 32-year-old Borg was rushed to a Milan hospital Tuesday from the apartment of his Italian fiancee, rock singer Lorena Berté, rocking unconfirmed Italian news reports that he attempted suicide.

In an interview with the Italian TV magazine Sorrisi E Canzoni, Borg was quoted as saying "I felt it because I ate something that upset my stomach. Then I drank

and took some sleeping pills. I don't remember anything else. They exaggerated this story."

The magazine, which released the interview in advance of publication, said it talked with Borg and Berté in Monte Carlo, where the couple went Wednesday.

Borg denied she was pregnant or that she and Borg had fought Monday night, as some Italian media had claimed.

"We ate Monday evening in my apartment on Via Aristote. He ate something from the refrigerator. Maybe it wasn't fresh," she said.

After meeting Sihanouk

China and Thailand firm behind Sihanouk

PEKING (R) — China and Thailand reaffirmed Friday their support for Kampuchean resistance leader Prince Norodom Sihanouk, the official New China News Agency said.

Thai Foreign Minister Siddhi Savetsila had three-and-a-half hours of talks "in a sincere and friendly atmosphere" with his Chinese counterpart, Qian Qichen, followed by a meeting with Premier Li Peng at the Communist Party's headquarters.

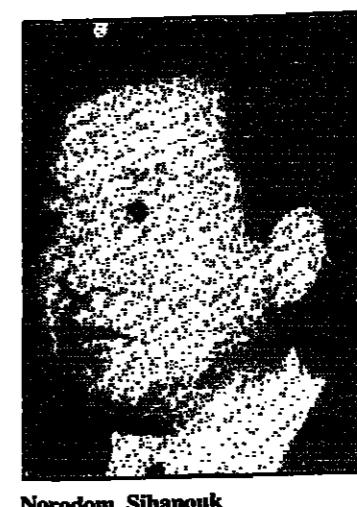
Few details of their talks were disclosed.

The two foreign ministers pledged their support for Sihanouk, the agency said.

China and Thailand are the main military and political supporters of Sihanouk's three-party coalition resistance force, which is fighting to end Vietnam's 10-year occupation of Kampuchea.

But, diplomats said, friction between Sihanouk and Bangkok has been generated by Thailand's opening of talks this month with Hun Sen, head of the Hanoi-backed government in Phnom Penh.

After that meeting Sihanouk



Norodom Sihanouk

The Kampuchean resistance coalition announced Thursday it had agreed on a detailed peace plan to take to Jakarta to present to Huu Sen and his Vietnamese backers.

The plan, approved by Sihanouk and based on his own proposals, calls for a United Nations-administered "international control mechanism" to monitor a Vietnamese withdrawal, a ceasefire, an end to all foreign aid and free elections.

It also proposes a U.N.

peacekeeping force to prevent a civil war and stop the Khmer Rouge from returning to power.

Vietnam invaded Kampuchea in 1978 to topple the Chinese-backed Khmer Rouge who are widely blamed for the deaths of more than one million people during four years of terror.

Sihanouk issued a statement Friday saying former Khmer Rouge leader Pol Pot could never return to power or stand in elections.

COLUMN

Earrings outrage jury

LONDON (AP) — A jury has ruled that two earrings made from human fetuses were an outrage to public decency, and the artist and a gallery curator have been fined. The case centered on earrings made from two freeze-dried fetuses that were attached to the ears of a female dummy and displayed in a glass case in December 1987. Police raided the Young Unknowns Gallery in London on the day the earring went on display, and the case aroused heated debate in artistic circles, where it was seen by some as a test of prevailing cultural tolerance in Britain. Judge Brian Smedley said Thursday he accepted that artist Rick Gibson, a 37-year-old Canadian living in London, and gallery curator Peter Syrieve, 43, were sincere in their motives. But he added: "There are some things which, although in your view have artistic merit, are nonetheless so offensive that the public simply will not tolerate their exhibition."

Dancing watermelons may be coming soon

CORDELE, Georgia (AP) — Television commercial advertisements featuring dancing, singing California Raisins have helped boost consumption by 13 per cent in the United States, and Buddy Leger wants to do the same for watermelons. Leger is co-chairman of the National Watermelon Association's Research and Promotion Committee. Watermelon growers and handlers throughout the United States will vote later in February on a proposed U.S. marketing order that would authorise an assessment of \$0.2 per hundred pounds to promote the crop. "Advertising is the name of the game. We're just trying to bring the consumer's attention to a good product," Leger says. So television viewers may soon be seeing a chorus line of big, green watermelons doing high kicks, or square dancing.

Trees have things to say

GRANTS PASS, Oregon (AP) — Physicist Ed Wagner says he has found evidence that trees talk to each other. If so, they probably say nicer things than other scientists say about him. Wagner, who left academia to start his own research laboratory, says trees "talk" in signals that he calls "W-waves." Explaining the phenomenon, Wagner pointed to a blip on a chart recording a tree-being chopped. "It put out a tremendous cry of alarm," he said. "The adjacent trees put out smaller ones." An abstract of his research was published last fall in Northwest Science Magazine. Wagner, 58, holds a doctorate in physics from the University of Tennessee. He formerly worked at the Oak Ridge National Laboratories in Tennessee and taught physics at California State Polytechnic University for five years.

Tip or die

NORWALK, Connecticut (AP) — A disgruntled waiter accused of attacking two men with a hammer and a knife after they left him a paltry tip has been found temporarily incompetent to stand trial. Superior Court Judge Edward Leavitt ruled Wednesday that Guang Da Shen, 19, of New York City, was unable to assist in his own defense and could not understand the assault charges lodged against him. The attack took place Jan. 14 outside the Dragon House restaurant after Louis Fabiani and his son, Neil, 24, left Shen a tip of \$2 or \$3 after eating a dinner costing less than \$10, according to police. A 15-per-cent tip is customary in the United States. Shen waited for them outside the restaurant and when they approached their car, he attacked them with a hammer and knife, police said. They suffered minor injuries in the incident.

Bing unaware he is married

NEW YORK (AP) — Sir Rudolf Bing, former metropolitan opera impresario and victim of Alzheimer's disease, was unaware he had married Carroll Douglass when he was interviewed 18 months after the wedding, a psychiatrist said. Dr. Barry Reisberg testified Tuesday at a New York State Supreme Court hearing on whether the 87-year-old Bing's January 1987 marriage to Douglass, a former mental patient, should be annulled. Lawyers for Bing contend he is incompetent and had no idea what he was doing.

WORLD NEWS IN BRIEF

Maung: Poll this year

RANGOON (R) — Burma's military leader was quoted Thursday as saying he hoped elections could be held eight or nine months after publication of an election law in March. Visiting Australian Senator Christopher Schacht told reporters General Saw Maung, leader of the state law and order restoration council, disclosed the timing at a meeting here. Western diplomats said it was the first time a Burmese official has given even a rough timetable for a poll since the army took over in September promising "free and fair" elections.

"The general opined that reasonable time must be allowed for free and fair elections and I agreed with that," Schacht said at a news conference.

Vatican hits Pretoria

VATICAN CITY (R) — The Vatican issued a major document on racism Friday condemning South Africa for what it called a prolonged state of repression but saying apartheid should be defeated by dialogue rather than violence. The 45-page document, called "The Church and Racism — Towards a More Fraternal Society" was ordered by Pope John Paul and written by the Vatican's Justice and Peace Commission. The document also warned that unbridled genetic engineering could bring the racism of the future and called discrimination against foreign workers in advanced countries un-Christian.

Westinghouse has denied the bribery allegations and has asked that the dispute with the Manila government be referred to the International Chamber of Commerce in Geneva.

In one affidavit, former solicitor general Estelito Mendoza said he refused to endorse the contract with Westinghouse in a memorandum sent to Marcos in 1975.

Manley wins Jamaica poll

KINGSTON (R) — Michael Manley, who once vowed to dismantle capitalism brick by brick but now says he is a true believer in free enterprise, won a landslide election victory to return to power for his third term as Jamaica's prime minister. After an election day of sporadic gunfire and street battles in which one woman died and six people were wounded, Manley and defeated conservative Prime Minister Edward Seaga urged their supporters to work together to rebuild Jamaica. "Sometimes you win, sometimes you lose," Manley told nearly 1,000 cheering, flag-waving supporters at his People's National Party (PNP) headquarters.

When you finish, you have to buy the campaign." The Jamaica Broadcasting Company (JBC), the state-run television network, declared Manley's left-leaning party the winner of at least 43 of the 60 seats in parliament.

Blast rips Panama station

PANAMA CITY (AP) — An explosion ripped through a pro-government television station, damaging the building's roof, walls and windows, a station spokesman has reported. Channel Two Director Julie Ortega said no one was injured in the blast early Thursday morning. An estimate on property damages was not immediately available, he said. Ortega said it was not known who planted the explosive device in a small sports studio inside the station in downtown Panama City. No one claimed responsibility. Local police said they were investigating.

1 killed, 50 hurt in Dhaka

DHAKA (R) — A man was killed and at least 50 students injured when rival groups fought with guns and home-made bombs after a union election at Bangladesh's Dhaka University Thursday, witnesses and police said. They said fighting broke out after a defeated student group attacked a victory march by the winners. Both sides used guns and bombs. They also set fire to a minibus and two shops. Police said the dead man, a part-time student at